

**Water Resources Adaptation to Climate Change Workgroup of the
Advisory Committee on Water Information
July 14, 2016: 1:00 – 2:30 eastern**

Call in Numbers:

USGS staff at Headquarters - x4848
Other USGS offices/DOI locations - 703-648-4848
Non-USGS locations (toll free) - 1-855-547-8255
Access code is: 53700#

When it is time to attend the meeting, please visit this link:

<https://usgs.webex.com/usgs/j.php?MTID=m46f8140a86d6301b63d776a76c217646>

Attendees:

Jeff Peterson, EPA Fed Co-chair	Brenna Mannion	Mike Muse, EPA
Paul Freedman, WEF Non-Fed Co-chair	Marla Stelk, ASWM	Mary Musick, GWPC
Lisa Engleman, AWRA	Nancy Turyk, NALMS	Margaret Parker
Mike Block, NGWA	Jeff Manning, ACWA	Wendy Norton, ACWI/USGS
Dave Carlton, ASFPM	Adam Carpenter, AWWA	
Carol Collier, AWRA	Karen Metchis, EPA	

Presenters:

- Marc Kodack, PhD; Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Energy and Environment
- Tina Laidlaw; U.S.EPA, Montana Office

I) Introductions and [Agenda](#) Review

II) Approval of Notes from Previous Meeting (see draft notes [here](#))

III) Presentation: U.S. Army Net Zero Initiative and Water Resources; Marc Kodack, PhD; Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Energy and Environment; see [PowerPoint](#) and <http://www.asaie.army.mil/Public/ES/netzero/index.html>

- Q: Are you looking at desalination at Ft Bliss project? A: Occasionally Ft Bliss uses the local desalination plant, but isn't actively pursuing that as an option right now. We're trying to get people to look at the interdependencies between water and energy, and that's another component of Net Zero. We want people to look at increasing efficiency and the use of alternative water sources before we look at processes like desalination.
- Q: Do you have any examples of your stories (from the DOE PNNL lab) available on the web? A: Yes, we do; see <http://www.pnnl.gov/>.
- Q: Do you have a ballpark estimate for all the installations for whether they have their own water systems or use municipal systems? A: Utilities privatization has been a successful public/private partnership and is continuing; often a third party takes over those utilities. We have combinations of both municipal and internal water systems. In some cases installations get their water from municipal sources but also have their

own wastewater treatment facility. Redundancy of water sources is important, and even robust redundancies may be overcome by severe drought.

- Q: Are there installations where there's imminent risk of running short of the water needed to run the base? For example, sea-level rise making it difficult for the base to stay at its current location. A: When we talk about risk to installation missions, too MUCH water may stop operations for a few days or weeks, and too LITTLE water can have the same effect. Water QUALITY problems can cause as much difficulty as water QUANTITY problems as well.
- Comment: AWRA has some pubs on case studies that might be useful to you in the Net Zero project.

IV) Presentation: Montana Drought Demonstration Project; Tina Laidlaw; U.S.EPA, Montana Office; PowerPoint slides [here](#)

- Q: In the discussion of longer range mitigation, to what extent have you been looking at climate projections or long-range climate models, with respect to water supply and drought? A: Many of these communities have already gathered info on the existing drought. We're looking at whether we'll do assessments on the watershed scale or a different scale.

V) Discussion and Final Action: Draft Workgroup Comment Letter; Draft *Looking Forward: Priorities for Managing Freshwater Resources in a Changing Climate*; see revised draft comment letter: [clean version](#) and [redline version](#)

- The Workgroup reviewed and discussed comments on each of the four major sets of recommendations in the *Looking Forward* report.
- A few edits were received and incorporated into the version that was sent to the group a few days ago.
- Thanks to Adam, Carol, and Jeff for taking the lead on the review and comment process for this document.
- There are no further comments on the memo, so the co-chairs requested general consensus that the current version is approved and should be finalized and sent to the full ACWI.
 - No objections or further comments were offered.
 - The memo is endorsed and will be submitted by COB July 15.

VI) Round Robin Reports from Workgroup Members (a brief highlight of your organization's activities related to climate change and water)

- Report from ASFPM 2015 Foundation National Flood Policy Forum report; [Meeting the Challenge of Change: Implementing the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard and Climate-informed Approach](#)
- National Academy of Science report on extreme weather: <http://www.nap.edu/catalog/21852/attribution-of-extreme-weather-events-in-the-context-of-climate-change>

- FEMA/NOAA/Mitigation Federal Leadership Group draft interagency concept paper on community resilience indicators; <https://www.fema.gov/community-resilience-indicators>
- New Climate Change Website for Army Corps of Engineers: <http://corpsclimate.us/>
- New Website for The Climate Ready Estuaries; <https://www.epa.gov/cre>) and new Sea Level Rise page (<https://www.epa.gov/cre/sea-level-rise>)
- Climate Central report on National Park Service and Sea Level Rise: <http://reports.climatecentral.org/nps/new-york-parks-sea-level-rise/>
- Rolling Stone article: *Can New York Be Saved in the Era of Global Warming?* <http://www.rollingstone.com/politics/news/can-new-york-be-saved-in-the-era-of-global-warming-20160705#ixzz4E7DUzWAX>
- New paper: *Sea level rise, drought and the decline of Spartina patens in New England Marshes*; <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0006320716300544>
- Blue Carbon Study Supports Tampa Bay Habitat Restoration and Resiliency Planning; [Tampa Bay Blue Carbon Assessment Summary of Findings](#)
- USGS Report: *In Hot Water: Climate Change Is Affecting North American Fish*; <https://nccwsc.usgs.gov/content/hot-water-climate-change-affecting-north-american-fish>
- The Public Policy Institute of California's Water Policy Center recently published *Managing Water for the Environment During Drought: Lessons from Victoria, Australia*; <http://www.ppic.org/main/publication.asp?i=1203#ReadMoreBtn>
- New report: *Eastern U.S. Lacks Connectivity to Help Species Escape Climate Change*; in Proceedings of the National Academies of Sciences; <http://www.pnas.org/content/113/26/7195.abstract>
- New paper; *River restoration by dam removal: Enhancing connectivity at watershed scales*; <https://www.elementscience.org/articles/108>
- Association of State Wetland Managers *Concept Paper; Transferring knowledge about beaver as a restoration partner to address drought conditions in the Montane Western United States* (see PDF [here](#))
- Comments on EPA/USGS paper on altered hydrology: <http://insideepa.com/daily-news/states-industries-protest-draft-epa-water-flow-reports-policy-suggestions>
- EPA report; "Evaluating Urban Resilience to Climate Change: A Multi-Sector Approach," <https://cfpub.epa.gov/ncea/risk/recordisplay.cfm?deid=236452>
- GAO report; *CLIMATE CHANGE; Selected Governments Have Approached Adaptation through Laws and Long-Term Plans*; <http://gao.gov/assets/680/677075.pdf>
- CBO report: *Potential Increases in Hurricane Damage in the United States: Implications for the Federal Budget*; <https://www.cbo.gov/sites/default/files/114th-congress-2015-2016/reports/51518-Hurricane-Damage.pdf>
- There was a major storm event in northern Wisconsin this week (8-10 inches of rain in 4 hours, with significant loss of infrastructure). Nancy Turyk offered to provide photos of the event if people are interested in using them for presentations, etc. If Nancy will send them to wenorton@usgs.gov, we will append them to the meeting minutes.

VII) Adjourn

Next meeting: TBD – if you have ideas about the best timing for this meeting (August or Sept or Oct), let Jeff and Paul know.